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MEAT CHOPPER

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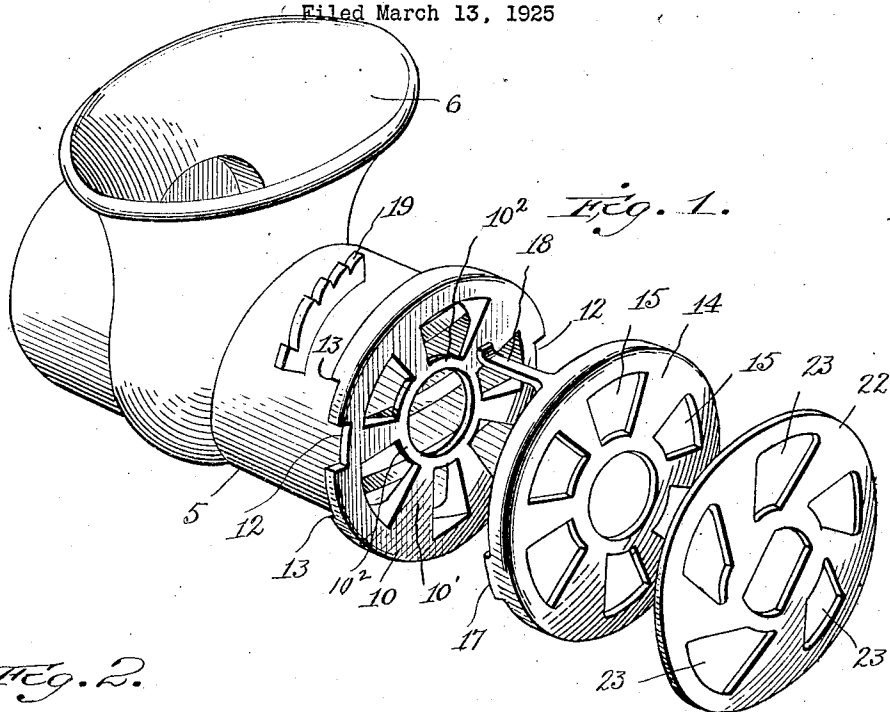
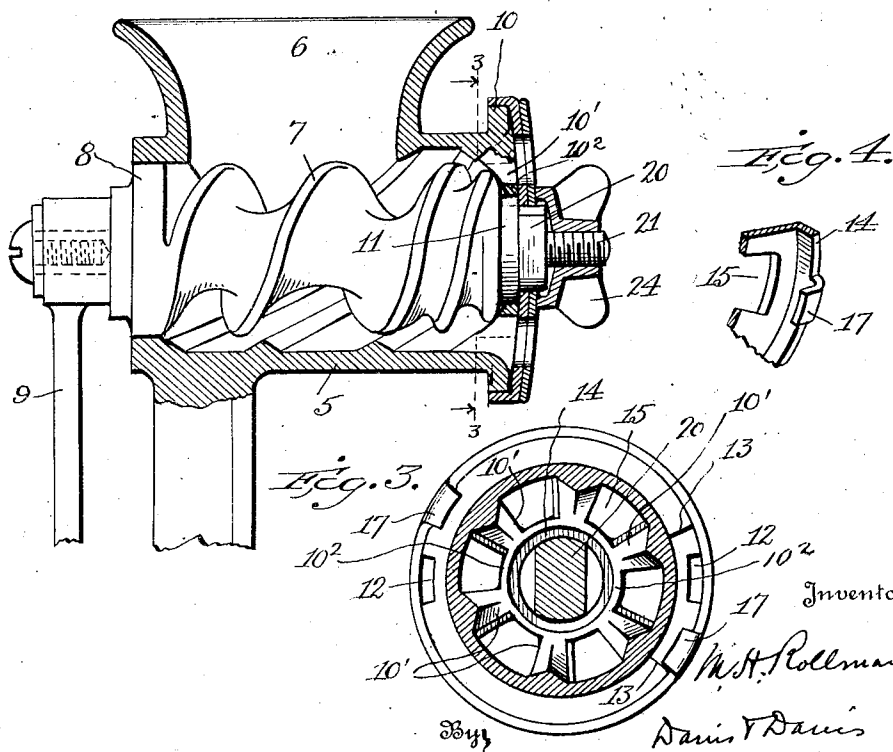


*Fig. 2.*



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## MEAT CHOPPER.

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The object of this invention is to simplify the structure of the meat chopper to thereby render it easily cleanable as well as inexpensive to manufacture and assemble, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the parts separated;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of my apparatus showing the parts assembled;

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view showing the locking-lug carried by the rotatably adjustable gage-plate.

Referring to the drawings annexed by reference-characters, 5 designates the usual cylindrical horizontal barrel of the meat-chamber, provided with the usual interior spiral ribs and also with the usual hopper 6. The usual cutting-and-conveying screw 7 is mounted in the barrel. A cylindrical part 8 at the rear end of the screw is journaled in the rear end of the barrel and serves as a closure therefor. A crank-handle 9 is fastened to this rear end of the screw in any suitable manner.

The forward end of the screw abuts against the inner one of a pair of gage-disks 10, this inner gage-disk being formed integral with the barrel. This inner gage-disk consists of inwardly-extending segments 10', whose inner ends are connected by a ring 10<sup>2</sup> fitting upon an annular part 11 formed on the shaft of the screw and thus form a journal for the outer end of the screw-shaft. The spaces between these segments 10' are the gage or exit openings through which the meat is pushed by the screw. These segments 10' are desirably in number the same as the spiral ribs in the barrel, and they, desirably, merge into these ribs. This inner gage-disk 10 is provided with a pair of notches 12 arranged diametrically opposite each other, and adjacent to one of these notches is a pair of shoulders 13. An outer gage-disk 14 fits against the outer face of the gage-disk 10, this outer gage-disk being provided with meat-exit openings 15. The disk 14 is rotatively mounted on the shaft of the screw so that it may be rotatively adjusted with reference to the disk 10, to thus cause the exit-openings 15 to overlap upon the segments 10' to thereby vary the size of the exit-openings. It will be understood that in operation both disks 10 and 14 remain sta-

tionary. The disk 14 is provided with a backwardly-extending flange 16 which fits over the outer edge of the disk 10 and is provided with a pair of hook-lugs 17 adapted to pass through the notches 12 and engage behind the projecting-edge of the disk 10, the shoulders 13 serving to arrest the rotative adjustment of the disk 14. In this way, the outer gage-disk is rendered easily attachable and detachable with respect to the integral gage-disk 10. To lock the adjustable gage-disk 14 in its adjusted position, any suitable devices may be employed; I show a finger 18 which is adapted to engage in any one of a series of notches formed in a lip 19 cast on the outer face of the barrel 5.

At a point beyond the cylindrical part 11 of the screw-shaft, the shaft is slabbed off at opposite sides to form a substantially angular part 20, from the extreme rear end of which projects a screw 21. The eye in the rotatable disk 14 is circular and adapted to fit the rounded surfaces of the angular part 20 so as to thereby be rotatable thereon. A rotary disk-cutter 22, provided with exit-openings 23, is affixed to the screw-shaft outside of the gage-disks. The eye of this cutter is made angular so as to fit the angular part 20 of the shaft, so that this disk will rotate with the screw-shaft. This disk-cutter is clamped against the outer gage-disk 14 by means of a clamp-nut 24 screwed onto the screw 21.

It will be observed that my apparatus is simple to manufacture and easy to take apart and clean. It will be observed also that the rear end of the screw-shaft is journaled within the barrel, while the forward end of the screw-shaft is journaled in the integral gage-disk, thus simplifying the structure. The entire thrust of the apparatus is, of course, taken up by the integral gage-disk formed on the front end of the barrel, it being unnecessary to provide any thrust flanges or lugs at the rear end of the barrel.

What I claim is:

1. A meat-cutter embodying a barrel and a screw and means for turning the screw, the screw being journaled in the barrel at its rear end, a gage-disk at the forward end of the barrel provided with openings for the passage of the meat formed integral with the barrel and serving as a journal for the forward end of the screw-shaft, a second fixed gage-disk rotatively mounted on the

aforesaid gage-disk and means for locking this adjustable gage-disk in its adjusted positions, and a cutter affixed to the shaft of the screw and bearing against the outer face  
5 of the outer gage-disk.

2. A meat-cutter embodying a barrel and a screw and means for turning the screw, a gage-disk fixed to the rear end of the barrel and having its peripheral edge extend be-  
10 yond the same and provided with diametrically-opposite notches, this disk being provided with exit-openings and a central journal for the screw, a second gage-disk rotatively mounted on the face of the aforesaid

disk and provided with a peripheral flange  
15 embracing the projecting periphery of the aforesaid disk, this flange being provided with overhanging lugs at diametrically-opposite points for passage through the aforesaid notches, means for locking this  
20 second disk in its rotatively adjusted position, and a cutter-disk affixed to the shaft of the screw outside of the aforesaid second gage-disk.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my  
25 signature.

MICHAEL A. ROLLMAN.